



MARYLAND

GRAIN & LIVESTOCK REPORT

December 21, 2012	MDA #117	VOLUME 37	No. 51	PUB. Weekly
WEEKLY GRAIN COMMENTARY		Kevin McNew	Adjunct Professor, UMD-College Park	

Chinese Cancellations, Fund Selling Gives Bears Fuel

Fundamentals on the demand side have driven the grains this week. Accelerating the selloff was technical weakness and commodity fund selling. As we head towards the end of the year, weekend, and holiday shortened week it will be important to monitor the volume and volatility of trade.

Export sales continue to disappoint for corn coming in at a combined total for this year and next of about 120,000 MT. Expectations were for around 250,000 – 550,000 MT. Soybeans came in near expectations at 630,000 MT (combined sales for ‘12/’13 and ‘13/’14) when expectations were for 650,000 – 850,000 MT. Wheat was at the high end of the expectations at 651,000 MT. The big story this morning was another soybean export cancellation made by the Chinese.

The USDA announced this morning that China cancelled another 540,000 MT of soybeans for delivery in the ‘12/’13 marketing year. This cancellation comes on the heels of the cancellations earlier in the week of a net total of 310,000 MT. It is cause for concern if these cancellations continue, we could really see the bean market fall drastically. Keep in mind that a rather large South American crop continues to loom over head.

Corn continues to see lackluster export sales and according to our models we are roughly 44 million bushels behind pace to meet current USDA projections. A revision lower will mostly likely be made to the January USDA estimates of at least 25 million bushels. Ethanol is another area of concern as our models show us running about 100 million bushels behind pace to meet the 4.5 billion bushels of corn going to ethanol currently being used by the USDA.

Technically, corn, soybeans and wheat are looking pretty weak after the price action of the last couple of days. Corn broke support in the \$7 area and is looking to fill a gap in the \$6.83 to \$6.90 area on the March daily chart. Soybeans are resting near support at \$14 on the January daily chart and could test November’s lows near \$13.72. Wheat broke the \$8 support level in yesterday’s action for the Chicago March contract. These markets are looking oversold for now so do not be surprised if we get some buying towards the end of the week. For corn and wheat, the downtrends are once again intact however, but the fundamentals still support beans in the short run.

CASH GRAIN PRICE – REGIONAL (\$/bu) DEALERS AVERAGE CASH QUOTES

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
Date	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18
Western, MD	6.78	6.78	13.76	13.70	8.11	8.13	5.00	5.00
Central, MD	7.00	7.00	13.71	13.86	7.93	8.14	----	----
Southern, MD	7.13	7.05	14.02	13.96	7.52	7.41	----	----
Upper E. Shore	7.54	7.46	13.97	14.01	7.67	7.56	----	----
Lower E. Shore	7.67	7.60	14.20	14.31	7.65	7.54	----	----

FORWARD CONTRACT PRICE – REGIONAL (\$/bu) HARVEST DELIVERY DEALER’S AVG. QUOTES

Grade and Commodity	#2 Y Shelled Corn		#2 Yellow Soybeans		#2 Red Winter Wheat		#3 Barley	
Date	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18	12/11	12/18
Western MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Central MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Southern MD	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Upper E Shore	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----
Lower E Shore	----	----	----	----	----	----	----	----

GRAIN FUTURES - CME Group - Settle - December 20, 2012 Quarter - cents/bushel)

Corn		Soybeans		Wheat		Soybean Meal ^{1/}	
MAR13	696’4	JAN13	1408’6	MAR13	790’4	JAN13	427.7
MAY13	699’6	MAR13	1404’6	MAY13	802’0	MAR13	425.0
JLY13	697’2	MAY13	1394’6	JLY13	807’6	MAY13	416.4
SEP13	622’6	JLY13	1390’4	SEP13	818’4	JLY13	411.3
DEC13	603’6	AUG13	1363’4	DEC13	830’4	AUG13	402.0
MAR14	613’0	SEP13	1323’4	MAR14	839’6	SEP13	386.3
MAY14	620’2	NOV13	1287’6	MAY14	837’2	OCT13	367.7
JLY14	623’2	JAN14	1293’6	JLY14	804’6	DEC13	365.4
SEP14	591’6	MAR14	1298’4	SEP14	811’0	JAN14	366.7
DEC14	587’2	MAY14	1300’6	DEC14	815’6	MAR14	369.3

HAY AND STRAW

New Holland, PA - December 17, 2012 - \$/ton

Alfalfa	Mixed Hay	Timothy	Grass	Straw
185.00 – 265.00	85.00 – 300.00	110.00 – 300.00	85.00 – 250.00	125.00 – 190.00

Westminster, MD – December 17, 2012 - \$/bale

Alfalfa	Alfalfa Mix	Timothy	Timothy Mix	Grass Mix	Straw
2.75 – 3.00	4.00 – 11.25	4.80 – 5.80	2.90 – 6.30	2.60 – 7.80	3.10 – 3.40

POULTRY ^{2/}															
Negotiated price for truck lot of ready-to-cook, ice-pack, Grade A Fryers (\$/CWT) – Week Ending - December 24, 2012															
		Current Week		Prev. Week		Prev. Month		Prev. Year							
N.Y. Weighted Avg.		95.55		96.45		95.24		76.95							
12 City Composite		95.67		96.55		95.66		80.01							
SHEEP & LAMBS - Westminster, MD – December 11, 2012 – (\$/CWT)							GOATS & KIDS – December 11, 2012								
Sheep		60.00 – 90.00		Lambs Under 50		130.00 – 152.50		Large		120.00 – 187.50					
				50 – 80 lbs		115.00 – 135.00		Medium		85.00 – 110.00					
				90 – 130 lbs		72.50 – 130.00		Kids		40.00 – 60.00					
HOGS & PIGS															
DIRECT MARKET HOGS - December 20, 2012 ^{2/}						MARKET HOGS - Westminster, MD – December 11, 2012									
*Base Price Range		Carcass Basis		Weighted		Butcher Hogs				Sows					
		Base 185 lb Hog		Average		#1 215 – 275 lbs		61.00 – 62.50		Heavyweights		45.00 – 56.50			
Iowa, Minn		72.00 – 85.25		82.06		Heavyweights		61.00 – 62.00		Lightweights		NA			
Eastern Cornbelt		66.00 – 80.25		79.08						Boars					
* Base price is the price from which no discounts are subtracted and no premiums are added										Heavyweights		23.00 – 39.00			
										Lightweights		NA			
MARKET HOGS-Lancaster, New Holland & Vintage, PA - (\$/CWT) - December 17, 2012 ^{2/}															
Percent Lean		Weight		Price				45 - 49		220 – 300 lbs		64.00 – 65.50			
49 - 54		220 – 300 lbs		65.00 – 68.00						300 – 400 lbs		58.00 – 60.00			
		300 – 400 lbs		66.00 – 69.00											
FEEDER PIGS-Lancaster, New Holland & Vintage, PA-(\$/CWT) (US 1-2)-, December 19, 2012 Next Feeder Pig sale – Jan. 2, 2012 ^{2/}															
Weight		Price		Wt Avg Price				Weight		Price		Wt Avg Price			
15 – 20 lbs		230.00 – 230.00		230.00				30 – 40 lbs		165.00 – 180.00		174.69			
20 – 25 lbs		240.00 – 265.00		253.10				50 – 60 lbs		130.00 – 130.00		130.00			
25 – 30 lbs		200.00 – 215.00		208.44				100 – 150 lbs		60.00 – 85.00		73.06			
LIVESTOCK FUTURES - CME Group - Settle (CWT) – December 20, 2012															
LIVE CATTLE – FUTURES						LEAN HOGS – FUTURES									
DEC12		128.95		JUN13		132.33		FEB13		86.45		JUN13		100.35	
FEB13		133.50		AUG13		131.60		APR13		91.18		JLY13		99.88	
APR13		137.40		OCT13		135.00		MAY13		98.50		AUG13		98.70	
STOCKER – FEEDER CATTLE – (\$/CWT)															
Winchester, VA – December 18, 2012 ^{2/}						Westminster, MD – December 11, 2012									
Steers		300 – 400 lbs		130.00 – 169.00		Steers		200 – 300 lbs		120.00 – 136.00					
		400 – 500 lbs		129.00 – 171.00				400 – 500 lbs		108.00 – 130.00					
		500 – 600 lbs		158.00 – 176.00				600 – 700 lbs		98.00 – 109.00					
		600 – 700 lbs		127.50 – 138.50				800 – 1000 lbs		NA					
		700 – 800 lbs		119.00 – 130.00											
Heifers		300 – 400 lbs		126.00 – 164.00		Heifers		200 – 300 lbs		80.00 – 109.00					
		400 – 500 lbs		131.00 – 154.00				400 – 500 lbs		98.00 – 120.00					
		500 – 600 lbs		118.00 – 141.00				600 – 700 lbs		NA					
		600 – 700 lbs		106.00 – 126.00				800 – 1000 lbs		88.00 – 90.00					
		700 – 800 lbs		110.00 – 112.00											
SLAUGHTER CATTLE (\$/CWT)															
Westminster, MD – December 11, 2012															
Sltr. Cows						Fed Heifers									
Breakers		76.50 – 80.00				Fat		113.00 – 118.00							
Boners		69.00 – 75.00				Lean		NA							
Thin/Slow		68.00 & Down													
Fed Steers						Holstein Bull Calves to Feed									
Fat		118.00 – 125.50				#1		102.50 – 107.50							
Lean		108.00 – 117.50				#2		87.00 – 98.00							
Select		100.50 – 106.50				#3		83.00 & Down							
Lancaster, New Holland & Vintage – December 20, 2012 ^{2/}															
Sltr. Steers:						Sltr. Heifers:									
Hi Ch & Pr 3-4		1200 – 1575 lbs		128.00 – 132.00		Hi Ch & Pr 3-4		1350 – 1550 lbs		125.50 – 129.00					
Choice 2-3		1270 – 1600 lbs		123.00 – 127.50		Choice 2-3		1300 – 1400 lbs		119.00 – 123.50					
Select 1-3		1180 – 1600 lbs		117.00 – 122.50											
						Sltr. Cows:		Percent Lean		Avg. Dressing					
Sltr. Holsteins:						Premium White		65 – 75		73.00 – 75.50					
Hi Ch & Pr 2-4		1500 – 1650 lbs		NA		Breakers		75 – 80		73.00 – 76.50					
Choice 2-3		1550 – 1650 lbs		109.00 – 110.00		Boners		80 – 85		72.00 – 76.50					
Select 1-3		1400 – 1600 lbs		106.00 – 107.00		Lean		88 – 90		65.00 – 70.00					

1/ Price Unit: Dollars and cents/ton (100 tons (2,000 lbs/ton))

2/ Source: USDA, AMS

<p>Compiled by USDA, NASS, Maryland Field Office</p> <p>For more information about this report, call 410-841-5740</p> <p>MARYLAND DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p>50 Harry S Truman Parkway</p> <p>Annapolis, MD 21401</p>	<p>UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE</p> <p>NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE</p> <p>MARYLAND FIELD OFFICE</p> <p>Barbara Rater.....Director</p> <p>Douglas Boline.....Deputy Director</p>
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